

Technical Branch
Library, Museum and Zoo Group
Zoo Series

ZOO EXHIBIT TECHNICIAN

06/02 (REB)

General Purpose

Under general supervision, perform skilled design, fabrication and maintenance of artificial zoological park environments.

Typical Duties:

Devise, construct and repair zoo animal exhibits, displays and habitats. Involves: Collaborate with education, veterinary and animal care staff to provide realistic, humane and sanitary surroundings for animals, and evaluate practicality and appropriateness of artificial environments with regard to health, comfort and safety requirements. Prepare sketches and drawings, and make calculations to diagram assigned projects. Build and assemble molds and structures to simulate rockwork, boulders, waterfalls, ponds, streams and other environment props, and create containments and their components such as wood, plastic and metal frames, foundations, fences, cages, doorways, locks, windows, vents and borders which includes heating, flame cutting, brazing and welding to resurface, fit and join ferrous and non-ferrous metal parts. Create camouflage, and blend artificial and natural environments which includes sculpting and painting. Recoat existing ponds and other water receptacles, prepare cement and replace concrete facilities, and refurbish fiberglass work. Assign and review work, and provide technical guidance to staff that assist with projects as assigned.

Maintain materials, supplies and work environment, perform miscellaneous related duties as assigned. Involves: Prepare project supplies and materials requisitions. Conduct research to identify current and best material for projects. Maintain supplies, equipment and materials in an orderly fashion. Assist with grounds maintenance as needed.

Knowledge, Skills, and Abilities

- Good knowledge of animal display, habitat and exhibit fabrication methods, tools, equipment and materials.
- Good knowledge of standard construction, maintenance and repair trades practices, including occupational hazards and safety precautions.
- Good knowledge of acetylene and electrical welding techniques, their application to the properties of various ferrous and non-ferrous metals.
- Ability to establish and maintain effective working relationships with other employees and the public.
- Ability to maintain and make minor repairs to acetylene and electrical welding equipment
- Ability to read, interpret and work from drawings or and broken parts.
- Skill in design, fabrication, sculpting, assembly and repair of wood, metal, plastic, fiberglass, concrete and fabric structures, camouflage and other artifacts to simulate environmental features.
- Skill in safe operation and care of electrical, mechanical, welding and molding equipment, and building trades and artist's hand tools.

Other Job Characteristics

- Frequent traversing of uneven terrain of inside and outside zoo environments.
- Frequent exposure to physical hazards of the trade when operating various electrical, mechanical, welding and molding equipment, and hand tools.
- Occasional exposure to physical hazards of entering areas occupied by zoo animals.
- Occasional exposure to humid surroundings and intemperate weather.
- Occasional moving of heavy objects (up to 50 pounds).
- Occasional driving of vehicle through zoo grounds and City traffic.
- Subject to call back and working various shifts and weekends.

Minimum Qualifications

Education and Experience: Equivalent to a combination of a high school diploma or GED, and three (3) years

experience constructing or renovating structures using various building trades techniques and materials, at least one (1) year of which included regularly performing comparable work for such purposes as keeping or viewing animals.

Licenses and Certificates: Texas Class "C" Driver's License or equivalent from another state.

Personnel Director

Department Head